



UU Update

Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Santa Rosa

• June 2014 • Volume 58 • Issue 6 •

Sunday Services at 9:15 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Theme: Freedom

June 1, 2014

Freedom in a Female Form

Service Leaders Florence Caplow and Frances Corman

Through the ages there have always been wise and powerful spiritual women, but their teachings have been largely forgotten and hidden. Now we are finding them. Come hear stories of radical freedom from the Buddhist tradition, collected in a new book, *The Hidden Lamp: Stories from Twenty-Five Centuries of Awakened Women*.

Florence Caplow is a Soto Zen priest, writer, student at Starr King School for the Ministry, and candidate for UU Ministry.

June 15, 2014

Two Years Together

Service Leader: Bryan Plude, Intern Minister

Worship Associate: Eric Fischer

Today is my last day at UUCSR as your intern minister. I reflect on our two years together: on the gifts you have given me in my development as a minister and on what it means to be a teaching congregation.

June 8, 2014

Free to Be

Worship Leaders: Rev. Kathy Huff, Deborah Mason, Andy Levine and Bryan Plude.

Today at 11am we celebrate and bless our graduating seniors in our annual Bridging Ceremony, a rite of passage that welcomes these bright and energetic people into the rewards and responsibilities of adult life. We also say farewell to Rev. Kathy our sabbatical minister. **Note:** There is one worship service today. Come early for breakfast at 8am hosted by the Youth group and then at 9:00 we meet in the sanctuary for our Congregational Meeting. Musical offerings from the Choir and the UUCSR Youth Band.

Today is Kathy's last official day with us. Please come with cards of appreciation if you feel so moved, and join us in the social hall for cake following the service.

June 22, 2014

A Year To Live ...

Worship Leader: Alan Proulx

Worship Associate: Linda Proulx

What would you do with your life if you knew you only had a year to live? Alan and his men's group resolved to find out with the help of the book, *A Year to Live*, by Buddhist practitioner and end-of-life counselor Stephen Levine. When people are really ill and have a short time to live, living can be reduced to dealing with illness. What would life be like if we only had a year or less to live and we weren't dealing with illness? What could we learn from focusing on what we really wanted to be and do with the limited time left to us? There are important lessons here for everyone who is going to die at some point in time!

June 29, 2014

Pilgrimages and Labyrinths: Spiritual Walking

Service Leaders: Erin Howseman and Susan Panttaja, with a Reflection by Robin Marrs

Walking is an ancient and powerful spiritual practice. Julia Cameron, author of *Vein of Gold, the Artist's Way*, writes that "Druids and Wiccans quest by walking. Tibetans make circular pilgrimages around Kalais, the sacred mountain. Native Americans walk for vision quests. Jesus also walked into the desert ... All of us make a pilgrimage whenever we set ourselves outward bound for inner voyaging." Like a pilgrimage, walking a labyrinth is a spiritual practice. The labyrinth provides the sacred space where the inner and outer worlds can commune, where the thinking mind and imaginative heart can flow together. With song, poems and reflection, we will come together and experience the inspiration that spiritual walking can bring us.

Monthly Musings from Rev. Kathy



Freedom is necessary for choice, and choice is necessary for wisdom and growth... the sacred world of love and wisdom, fiery intelligence and passionate will, imagination and delight—is a world of freedom. It is liberating. But it is also binding and connecting.

-David Spangler

When travelling to Santa Rosa from my home some 70 minutes drive time away there are a few forks along the freeway I must navigate. Sometimes the way is open and clear and I am free to go in any direction needed without much thought. Other days I have to make careful choices as I cut across several lanes of traffic just to make it in time. I'm aware that if I miss just one of these forks it can take quite some time to recover. One day it happened. Lost in thought about the story I intended to tell on Sunday morning when I realized I had missed that important veer to the right. Missing it, and failing to notice that I had, added significant time to my commute. And at exactly the point I needed assistance my GPS also decided to take its own little holiday, so I had to decide for myself. Do I just keep moving forward trusting I was heading in the right direction, or turn back?

Life is a bit like that. Everyday we are faced with choices and opportunities that can take us in directions both intended and surprising. Our days are filled with all kinds of decisions we have to make about which way to go, where to turn, what to do next. Much of the time we make these decisions without even thinking about it. They are part of our routine, our bodies and brains tell us what's next and off we go. This freedom to choose directions, to chart our own course is taken for granted. It's almost invisible unless we take time to notice it.

The day I was "lost on the freeway" I chose to keep moving forward. And I'm so glad I did! It may have taken longer but I experienced a whole new way to get to UUCSR. I even managed to exit off the freeway early to take an unfamiliar road that brought me through beautiful sun lit countryside with green hills and grazing cows far closer than I'd otherwise have a chance to encounter. I saw farmers in action, and building projects, and neighbors chatting. A small child riding her bicycle with a big smile on her face and a dog running behind made the picture perfect. The slower pace on unfamiliar ground made the journey so much more enjoyable. And to think if I'd not missed my turn or chosen to keep moving forward I might have missed it all!

Over six months ago I was given the opportunity to be with you for this sabbatical time. This too was an unexpected fork in the road and I'm so glad we had the chance to move forward together. We have traveled into some new territory together, seen and experienced some new things, and for my part the journey was well worth the time. Thank you for the privilege of being your sabbatical minister. You are a wonderful congregation, open and engaging and kind. It's been a delight to serve you. I will treasure our time together always and look forward to hearing all about the ways you are sure to continue to grow and change when Rev. Chris returns.

Our last Sunday together is coming up soon, but you will see me sitting in the pews and cheering you on for the 10th Anniversary celebration in July. I hear your own beloved minister will be making a cameo appearance too! What a day it will be to lift up the past and joyfully anticipate the path forward.

With much love and abiding faith in your journey,
Rev. Kathy



Greetings from the Board President

Another month has sped by. With the beginning of June we enter a period of a number of goodbyes within our community. The goodbyes were expected but there is, nonetheless, the sting of loss attached to them.

BRYAN PLUDE, OUR INTERN MINISTER, will complete his time with us this month. He will preach for the last time on June 15. It has been a rich experience supporting the development of a minister. Bryan has been a friend to us all and a calming spiritual presence. Whether from the pulpit, in the social hall, at board meetings, welcoming new members, participating in the work of the congregation members, or in newsletter articles, we have come to know Bryan and I know I feel quite attached and suspect you all do as well. It is time, however, for him to move on and we will send him off with every good wish imaginable.

KATHY HUFF, OUR SABBATICAL MINISTER, will also complete her time with us this month. She will preach for the last time on June 8. Kathy seems to have decided, right from the get go, to jump in with both feet and certainly both arms, head and heart to accompany all of us on this sabbatical experience. She was hired to supervise Bryan, preach a bit and be available for emergencies. She has done this and so much more. Kathy has been ridiculously generous with her time, wisdom, guidance and support. I imagine we all have a special Kathy story...a story of a special kindness, a helpful idea, a supportive, prayer-

ful interest in the life of our congregation. Now it is time to say goodbye and send her off bundled with good wishes as well.

We have a bit of time to say our goodbyes to both Bryan and Kathy and let them know how much they have meant to us.

GOODBYES ON THE BOARD, Laura Jean Hageman, John Farison, Cathie Wiese, Lois Bell. These folks are not leaving the congregation, as are Bryan and Kathy, but are leaving the board. Those of us continuing will miss them dearly. We thank them for their years of service on the board and their dedication to the well being of this congregation. Perhaps you might thank them the next time you see them.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING, JUNE 8. You will have received your meeting packet by the time you read this. I hope you will read through the material sent to help you understand the issues we will be voting on. You may even want to discuss some of the items with friends. Please ask for clarification if anything is unclear. You can call or email the person who is bringing forward the issue that you would like clarified or call or email me. I look forward to a productive meeting, knee deep in our democratic process.

In fellowship,
Jeanie Bates, President, UUCSR Board of Trustees

Monthly Theme Reflection Questions, Practices and Resources

Our monthly themes invite us to live our faith through a process of reflection and action. Together and individually we consider the ways we can deepen our spirits and work together to build a more just, loving and sustainable world. Our theme for June is Freedom.

Freedom and democracy are cherished Unitarian Universalist values. Our religion rests on a foundation built on radical beliefs first put forth during the Protestant reformation and by Francis David in 1568 who said "need not think alike to love alike." Today the 4th of our seven principles affirms the "free and responsible search for truth and meaning."

Reflection Questions: What does freedom, especially religious and spiritual freedom mean to you? What does it mean to be both free and bound by covenant? How do you safeguard religious freedom for others? Are there limits to freedom? What happens when freedom encompasses something you do not agree with?

Practices: Still and free the mind through meditation. Unplug

and sit in silence for at least 20 minutes. Breathe deeply; observe your thoughts without judgment. Read the Book of Exodus. Consider how this biblical freedom story tale is the story of UU. Learn about a religion you are unfamiliar with. Visit a mosque, a temple, a church or a meetinghouse. Engage in discussion with a religious neighbor. Read, write, web surf, or blog about religious freedom. Find out who is being persecuted for beliefs that are very different from your own, imagine what it would mean to do something to protect that person or religious group.

Books for Adults (A) Youth (Y) and Children (C): *Out of the Flames* by Lawrence and Nancy Goldstone (A) *Three Prophets of Religious Liberalism: Channing, Emerson and Parker* ed. By Conrad Wright (A) *The Jefferson Bible* ed. By Thomas Jefferson (A,Y) [Faith Without Certainty: Liberal Theology in the 21st Century](#) by [Paul Rasor](#) (A) *The Lamp In Every Corner* by Janeen Grohsmeyer (C); *Hide and Seek with God* by Mary Anne Moore (C) **Movies:** *Meetings with Remarkable Men* (NR); *October Sky* (PG) *The Truman Show* (PG)

Intern Minister

You may have read, or will read, the Treasurer's Report in this newsletter. In that report, Linda Balabanian describes how we undershot our pledge drive goal by \$25,000. I have spent nearly two years with you, and it pains me to see you limiting yourselves by how much you give to UUCSR. I have sat with the Board of Trustees and watched them make painful decisions about what will be cut, backed by the dedicated work of the Budget Task Force. Their conversations are informed and caring about this institution which means so much to so many.

Our draft budget, presented at our February congregational meeting, was based on a pledge drive goal of \$435,000. To meet our draft budget required an average donation of \$1,200 from each pledging member and friend. Unfortunately, two thirds of us gave less than this amount. One third of us gave less than \$600. It is only due to the great generosity of a relatively small number of us that we came as close as we did to meeting our goal.

In a fundraising course I took a couple years ago I learned that Americans are generous. Many of us give to 10, 15 or even 20 charitable organizations. And mostly we give in small amounts, maybe \$20, maybe \$200. But our congregation is not like many of these

other organizations. We don't have a donor base of 10,000, or even 1,000. Our base is 360. We can't make up for small donations with sheer numbers of donations.

I invite you to think about what UUCSR might look like if more of us came closer to meeting that average donation of \$1200. We wouldn't be talking about painful cuts. As Linda said in her report, we might be able to hire an assistant minister for Rev. Chris, who works 60 or more hours each week. We might be able to remodel those bathrooms everyone loves to hate. We might be able to hire the staffing to offer more children's programming and grow our young adult membership.

How much more could you afford to give if you were to consolidate your giving? What if you only gave to 5 organizations and the difference went to UUCSR? As my spiritual director has told me, there will always be 10,000 worthy causes asking for my attention. To be effective as a minister, I must discern where my heart calls me and keep focused. I ask you, where is UUCSR in your heart?

Blessings,

Bryan Plude,
Intern Minister

Time of Discovery

I was the archivist at the UU Todd Road Fellowship in 2004 prior to moving to our present location later in the year. It was a time of discovery and excitement for me. John Hutchinson, no longer an active member, had been historian and compiled a few stories written by and about some first members in an album.

Many current members were asked to write stories of their contributions to the fellowship and a few did. When I learned of Fausto Muirragui's death, I was most anxious to re-read his story of membership. It is a touching memoir.

Maureen Rumford has been the archivist since the move to Mendocino Avenue. The album has been

replaced by two notebooks and are available on request to the members of the congregation. Since locating them, I have re-read every word!

When going through the contents of many boxes at Todd Road, I learned a lot. I was sad to learn that the colorful woven, knitted and embroidered banners made by the early members and hung in the social room for acoustic affect had been destroyed "because they were dirty!". I found half a dozen metal chalices made by Florence Dixon, our most prolific artist. Where are they now? I learned the history of the 100 year old Todd Road school that became our church and why we couldn't have a sewer. Check it out!

Religious Education for Children and Youth

June is a month of transitions for many children and youth. They say goodbye to the school year and hello to the lazy days of summer. It is a bittersweet time in RE as we say farewell to our graduating seniors. June is the month of graduation and bridging and the beginning of a new journey for five members of the youth group. I would like to tell you about the wonderful young people who are bridging this year:

Dillon Redican's aunt brought him to UUCSR soon after he came to live with her family, about two years ago. He has been a steadfast and enthusiastic member of the group since then. Dillon has found a community in the youth group – he is an active leader. His dream for many years has been to attend University of Oregon. He is on his way to that dream as he will be attending Lane Community College in Eugene this fall and moving on to the University in two years.

Ian Olney grew up in this congregation attended RE beginning at the old Stoney Point Fellowship. He earned his Eagle Scout this year and was honored by friends and family here at UUCSR. Ian is a great big teddy bear: clever, quirky and very sweet (when he is not being sarcastic!). Ian will be taking a trip to Barcelona after graduation and will return to study at Santa Rosa Jr. College in the fall.

Aaron Dabney – Began coming to Youth Group in 2013. He was brought by a friend in the group and has been a regular attendee ever since. When he first joined us he was a self-identified libertarian – conservative in his family tradition. Now he identifies as a U U and his thinking about everything has become more liberal and grounded in

optimism. His life changed when he went to his first PCD Youth Con, and he saw, first hand, what loving community could be. Aaron is an incredibly creative person. His plans for the future are open to all possibilities at this moment. His imagination will lead him somewhere awesome.

Eddie Young – Eddie has been coming to UUCSR for at least 10 years. Eddie is another (of many) youth whose life was changed when he attended his first Con. There he found a community that accepted and loved him as he is. His self esteem ascended over the years of high school. He has been a loyal member of the youth group since 8th grade and has found there a place of caring and acceptance. In 2012 we started a Youth Group Band. Eddie joined, playing guitar and he has grown into quite the accomplished player over these years.

Jessica Gold – Jessica has only been with the youth group for a year. She was introduced to the group and to Unitarian Universalism by her boyfriend Dillon. Though she is the newest member of the youth group, she has made strong connections with here. She is a fun and creative young woman. She will be attending SRJC in the fall.

All of these youth will be greatly missed by the youth group and by me. One of the pleasures of working with youth is seeing them grow and change over time. I am so proud of Dillon, Ian, Aaron, Eddie and Jessica and send them blessings on their journey. I hope the UUCSR community will come to the bridging ceremony for these youth during the 11:00 worship service on June 8th.

In faith, Deborah

Here's What's Happening in RE Classes

Sr. High Youth Group meets every Thursday from 4-6pm. Deborah Mason, Rev Chris serve as Youth Advisors. Contact Deborah [REDACTED] for more information.

Summer program begins on June 8, 2014 with RE session and the worship service at 10:00am. All ages grades K-6 meet together during the summer months. Sessions include worship, a brief lesson, games and crafts. We keep it fun and simple!

Childcare for babies, toddlers and preschoolers will be provided by Fiona Mackenzie and Shawna Hoxsie.

June RE class schedule – All ages meet together in one class

06/1/14 11:00am	Children's Chapel Freedom
06/8/14 10:00am	<i>Justice</i>
06/15/14	<i>Simplicity – Henry David Thoreau</i>
06/22/14	<i>Defining Peace</i>
06/29/14	Making Peace

Treasurer's Report

It's hard to believe that we're coming up on the end of our "church-year". It's been a busy year for many of us especially with Rev Chris' sabbatical. Before we know it we'll be welcoming him back!

This month at our Congregational Meeting, we'll be presenting our preliminary budget for next fiscal year (beginning July 1). The draft budget was presented at the February Congregational Meeting and was based on our pledge drive goal of \$435,000. Much of the budgeting process is driven by the results of our pledge drive since pledges from our members and friends account for over 72% of our revenue. Since we missed our pledge drive goal by almost \$25,000, it was necessary to re-evaluate some of the areas we were hoping to fund next year and to look for other ways in which we might increase revenue. The Board along with the Budget Task Force and several others worked hard to determine where cuts could be made and where we might be able to generate additional funds. Several hard choices were made and the results will be presented to the congregation on June 8.

Although we've made some real progress in lowering costs recently, much of the reduction is more long term in nature, such as our LED lighting retrofit and paying our mortgage with lower interest member notes. In the short term we won't realize the savings but will maintain a level rate in these expenses. The savings will kick in once the PG&E financing and the member notes, respectively, have been paid. So we've taken these measures as investments in our future for our long-term financial health. In other areas our costs are rising as usual. We all contend with rising prices in our daily lives so that's no surprise.

So that's the reality of our financial situation and unfortunately it doesn't leave a lot of room for funding those hopes and dreams we've been discussing for a few years.

But I'm one of those "glass half full" folks and I believe that we will find a way together through the generosity of our members and friends to balance our budget without painful cuts and even move toward funding some of our dreams. Back in February as we started our pledge drive, a small group of members got together and talked about their wish list for our future – the areas that they would like to see funded as we move forward. Here are a few of their hopes and dreams for the future (in no particular order):

- Hire a second minister
- Improve sanctuary aesthetics
- More involvement in the community/service program-
- Kitchen upgrades
- Repairs in restrooms
- Noise reduction in the social hall
- More staff (make some fulltime and add positions)
- Go solar!
- Establish a retirement community for our members
- Purchase the building next door.

What are some of your hopes and dreams for our community in the future? On what would you like to see us focus our financial resources and energy? I will share one of my favorite quotes with you yet again (and I'm sure I will at times in the future too) because it is one that has always motivated me to move ahead confidently even when things looked murky – or worse.

"Whatever you can do, or dream you can, begin it. Boldness has genius, power and magic in it." Goethe

Linda Balabanian, Treasurer

Youth Group Service Trip Fund-raisers

Thanks to everyone who has supported the youth group
in their fund raising efforts.

We have two more awesome events before we take off for Habitat for Humanity, Taos

June 8 8 – 8:45 am Breakfast before the Congregational Meeting
Come early for the meeting and enjoy a hearty, yummy meal!

June 29 After the 11am Service
Art Auction –

Here is your opportunity to buy art created by our talented UUCSR youth.

You are a generous congregation and the youth group is very appreciative

Music Notes

June is going to bring quite a few changes to our music program, as well as changes in our service leaders. First of all, we will miss Richard Riccardi, our wonderful pianist for most of the month. He and his wife, Sandy, will be touring their cabaret show in New York from June 1-21. We will welcome him back for the service June 29. While he is away, Roger Corman will be playing piano for the services on June 1 and June 8. Jenny Harriman and Pat Russell will then play piano duets for the next two services, June 15 and June 21.

June is also the last month that you will hear the choir sing until September, with the exception of one special service on July 13, which is our 10th anniversary celebration. On June 1, for both services with the theme about "Buddhist Women" the women in the choir will sing "You Gotta Be," a song written by the [British pop](#) and [soul singer Des'ree](#) and Ashley Ingram, which was included on a CD as a tribute to [Diana, Princess of Wales](#), in 1997. Also for that service we will hear another women's song, "Someday Sparrow" by Laura Cantrell, which will be sung by Susan Panttaja.

For Rev. Kathy Huff's last service on June 8 at 11 am, the choir will sing two songs, "Goodbye Song" by

Jester Hairston, and "As" by Stevie Wonder. Also, since there will be a Bridging Ceremony that Sunday, the Youth Band will sing and play a Beatles Song, "In My Life." For Bryan Plude's last service on June 15 at 10 am, Robin Rogers will sing "My Lord What a Morning" for the Prelude, and you will later hear Billie Sue Fischer sing a special song, "Keep Me God" by Iris DeMent. She will be accompanied by an amazing group: Nancy Hayashibara, Robert Lunceford, John Chenoweth, and Al Liner.

The last two services in June will be led by members of our congregation. On June 21, Alan Proulx will preach a sermon about "A Year to Live" assisted by Linda Proulx as the Worship Associate. For that service, Robin Rogers and friends will sing a medley of two songs, "Don't Worry Be Happy" by Bobby McFerrin and "One Love" by Bob Marley," as well as another song, "The Last Night of the World" by Bruce Cockburn. The service on June 29 will be led by two Worship Associates, Erin Howseman and Susan Panttaja who will also surprise us with their choices of some special music.

Submitted by Jenny Harriman, Music Committee Chair

Faith and Fitness

Two hikes in June: Saturday June 14 and Wednesday June 18 for the evening hike, details to follow. For information please email fitness@uucsr.org or call

Richard Fung at [REDACTED] Also, save the date: July 12 for evening potluck picnic. Hope to see you there. Happy trails."

Women Together

Let's keep up the great feeling we created at our Retreat by coming together for a Pot-luck lunch at the Congregation on **Saturday, June 21st**, from noon to 2 pm.

This is not only an opportunity to renew connections

made at the Retreat but also, for those who couldn't come to the Retreat this year, to get to know each other better. Please bring a lunch dish to share. No need to RSVP but if you have any questions or concerns, give me a call. Linda Harlow [REDACTED]

Evening Book Group

The Evening Book Group will meet on Thursday June 12th at 6:30 p.m. at 547 Mendocino.

This is a finger food potluck. Bring a snack or beverage to share. Also bring recommendations for us to read in the coming year (September to May). We do not meet in July and August. The group will select the books for the following year based on the suggestions presented

at the June meeting. Members alternate presenting the books to the group. We read across all genres and make sure books are widely available, i.e. published in paperback by the time of the meeting and available through our library system.

Contact Linda Lampson with questions.

Hot Topic

On Sunday **June 1st**, come to the Board Room at 12:45 to explore the issue of Safe Driving as We Age, and, even more problematic, when to turn in our car keys. Consider how to convince an elder that it's time to do so, knowing all the difficulties of living in Sonoma

County without being able to drive and understanding the psychological and emotional issues giving up our car keys evokes. Come with your stories, questions, and concerns.

A light lunch will be available for a donation.

Advocates for Social Justice

Share the Offering: On Sunday, **June 8th**, half of the collection will go to The Living Room. This is the only place for women and their children to go during the day to learn new skills, get counseling, help with parenting, job and house-hunting. UUCSR is part of their Circle of Support so please be as generous as you can.

our Saturday Breakfast Program. This has become a mainstay in the lives of individuals and families who are having a hard time financially. Recently a knowledgeable Resource person has been attending the Breakfast to answer any questions about services available in our community. Please do as much as you can to sustain this vital program. Thank you!

On Sunday, **June 22nd**, half the offering will be given to

Caring Connections Presents:

Please welcome Derek Spiekerman, our newest member. As you probably already know, Derek has a "great passion" for his work in the field of Mental Health (20 yrs!). Jacquie Robb, as of this writing, is in Italy, more about her, upon her return.

"A Good Life. A Good Death" presentation by Gretchen Vap and Jacquie Robb was well attended. We thank you for your participation and suggestions.

"Five Wishes", a Living Will was made available by Gail Alford. You can phone 888-5wishes or visit their website www.agingwithdignity.org for a copy.

There continues to be discussion and interest regarding "Death Cafe", another platform to ask questions and share your concerns and thoughts. A monthly meeting hear at the UU? We will keep you updated. Meanwhile check out their website deathcafe.com. "Café Mortel" in Oakmont, 537-9545. Mark the "Sunflower Center of Petaluma" Karen@death411.org.

Its been asked that we include births, deaths, anniversaries, moves etc., in our newsletter. We need your help. Please come by the Caring Connections table to keep us updated. We thank you.

Debbie Carter-Hope, Caring Connections



NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

SUNDAY, JUNE 15, 2014

Newsletter@uusantarosa.org

E-mail Submissions

Greatly Appreciated!

Newsletter Assembly

10 a.m.— June 24, 2014

UUCSR Writers—A Stimulating Environment

Our "UUCSR Writers Presents" is pleased to announce a special five part series event Writers Film Study of "The Sting".

NOTE: Anyone who likes Movies is invited to attend this series. "You don't have to be a writer". Some folks may want to watch the DVD at home and attend the subsequent group meetings. That's OK providing everyone sees the movie before the July session.

Monday 4-6pm, June 2: "The Sting" Movie Preview Only, 129 minutes, no Group Discussion. Bring your own beverage. Also some popcorn or snack to share would be welcomed.

Mondays June 2, July 7, August 4, September 8, and October 6 from 4-6 pm at the Glaser Center, 547 Mendocino Ave., Santa Rosa, 707-568-5381.

Note: Sessions will begin promptly at 4pm.

Mondays July 7 through Oct 6, Group Discussion

Are you a moviegoer: entertained and involved? OR

Are you a film viewer: looking for a message or communication?

When we comment on a film: Are we evaluating if the message is valid, meaningful, transmitted effectively in terms of film technique beginning with the actual Script and ending with the editing?

This five part series will study one film, "The Sting". We will entertain the above questions in a Group Discussion format. When available Guest Speakers (tba) will be invited to shed light on Understanding Film and how movies are made: Popularity, Viewing, Perceiving, Language, Script, Evaluating and Financial success. By April 1975 "The Sting" had grossed \$100,000,000.

"One of the most popular films of the 1970s was "The Sting" a George Roy Hill film starring Paul Newman, Robert Redford, and Robert Shaw as confidence men of the 1930's. In the film, Gondorff (Newman) and Hooker (Redford) have planned an elaborate con game for

Lonnegan (Shaw), a New York gambler. They set up a fake betting parlor in a former Chicago pool hall, equipping it with ticker-tape machines and a race caller who is part of the con. They have tricked Lonnegan into believing he has a chance to make a killing by placing a \$500,000 bet on a "sure" race. In an earlier scene, Hooker was put under pressure to sell out to the FBI by Polk, the local Bureau director, and by Snyder, a crooked detective from Joliet, Ill. Throughout the picture, Snyder has been chasing Hooker, who had paid him a bribe in counterfeit money." Everything leads up to how one of the film's biggest scenes, the one leading up to the final "sting" was written by David S. Ward, Screenwriter. (Ref: UNDERSTANDING THE FILM by Johnson & Bone, 1976 by National Textbook Co.)

"The Sting" walked away with seven Academy Awards.

best picture of 1973, to producers Michael and Julia Phillips and Tony Bill

best director, George Roy Hill

best original screenplay, David S. Ward

best film editing, William Reynolds

best art direction, Henry Bumstead

best costume design, Edith Head

best original song score and adaptation or scoring, Marvin Hamlisch

Nominations included

best actor, Robert Redford

best cinematographer, Robert Surtees

best sound, Robert Bertrand and Ronald Pierce

For more details about the UUCSR Writers,

please visit <http://uucsrwriters.blogspot.com>

Best thoughts to Everyone.

Take Care, Georgette G. deBlois, XXXXXXXXXX

<http://uucsrwriters.blogspot.com>

Dinner & A Show—A Bit of Broadway Magic w/Kelly Brandenburg

The first time I ever saw Kelly Brandenburg was in a production of 'Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dream Coat,' at the Santa Rosa Players. She was one of the massive youth ensemble, and even then, at the age of 14, singing out from amidst a huge pack of kids, it was clear that this kid was destined for some sort of stardom. A number of years later, we were both cast in a production of 'The Wizard of Oz.' She was Dorothy. I was the Tin Man. The next year, we performed together again in 'Godspell,' by which time Kelly had made it clear that her dream was to someday perform on Broadway, singing the show-tunes she'd grown up loving. She was so committed to this dream that her email address began with KellyOnBroadway. That was Kelly: Just putting it out there.

Today, Kelly is still working relentlessly toward that goal. Several years ago, she was accepted at the prestigious American Musical and Dramatic Academy in New York City, and studied at same school that has produced hundreds of Broadway's current crop of singers, dancers and actors. After graduating, she decided to come back to Sonoma County to work on her next goal of recording a CD of her favorite Broadway tunes, before heading back out to take that stab at the stage. She's been grabbing people's attention with her appearances in local shows, including her recent run in Spreckels' 'Catch Me If You Can,' in which she played the romantic lead and had the show's best moment with her sensational performance of the song 'Fly, Fly Away.'

So . . . when we were considering who might be contacted to perform for this month's gala Broadway-themed dinner-and-a-show fundraiser and celebration (the first event over the next few months to mark the 10th Anniversary of our move to downtown Santa Rosa), the first person I thought of was my former co-star Kelly. With her CD, titled 'Where Dreams are Born,'

now completed, Kelly was eager for a chance to perform some of the tunes from the recording, plus several others she's loved her whole life.

With accompanist Chris Alexander on piano, Kelly will be singing a colorful line-up of ballads and love songs, including 'Till There Was You' from 'The Music Man,' 'Wonderful Guy' from 'South Pacific,' 'Think of Me' from 'Phantom of the Opera,' 'The Music That Makes Me Dance' from 'Funny Girl,' along with songs from 'Cabaret,' 'Les Miserables,' 'Sunset Boulevard,' 'Finian's Rainbow,' and a lot more. The concert will be preceded by a wonderful dinner cooked up by Worth Our Weight,' and after the show, we hope you'll stay behind for coffee and desert.

In response to a frequent request from some of the parents in our congregation, we are providing childcare for a flat \$5.00 per child, and that will include pizza and beverages for the kids, so you can enjoy dinner and the show knowing that your kids are fed and well taken care of.

Tickets are a very reasonable \$50 per-person, including dinner, one beverage, dessert, and the show. And for those who prefer to just catch Kelly and skip the dinner, tickets are available for \$25, and that includes dessert and coffee after the show.

Come celebrate dreams with us, as we honor the dream that brought our congregation from out on Stonypoint to our current location, along with Kelly's Broadway dreams of creating beautiful music that touches and delights her audience. Please join us. That's Saturday, June 28. Dinner at 6:30 p.m., show at 8:00 p.m. Tickets available after service, in the office, at the Last Record Store, and online at brownpapertickets.com. David Templeton Glaser Center

Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Santa Rosa 17 April 2014

Members Present -- Susan Bartholome, Jeanie Bates (President), Lois Bell, Joe Como, John Farison, Laura Jean Hagemen (Vice President), Alan Proulx, Linda Stabler, Cathie Wiese, Marge Wright

Members Not Present -- None

Non-Members Present -- Linda Balabanian (Treasurer), Sibyl Day (Corporate Secretary), Richard Fung (HR Committee), Terry Graham (Recording Secretary), Kirsten Olney (Budget Task Force), Brian Plude (Intern Minister), J.D. Thompson

Meeting called to order at 6:33 p.m. by Board of Trustees (BOT) President, Jeanie Bates

Opening Words & Chalice Lighting – Reading by Jeanie: "Right Intention", The Buddha

Timekeeper Volunteer – Sibyl Day

Minutes of 20 February 2013 Review -- Draft minutes corrected in situ. Minutes accepted as corrected.

Agenda Review –No Revisions

Open Microphone – Jeanie Bates -- FY14/15 BOT officers were elected at the Sunday meeting, 6 April.

Group Goals

Facilities – John Farison – The electrical panel replacement is complete; installation was monitored by John Jaffray. An appeal is being made to PG&E for recovery of approximately \$6K of the cost. The new account has been established to collect PG&E costs for the Islamic Society rental area.

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Board of Trustees Minutes Cont.

Cont. from page 11

Financial – Laura Jean Hageman – Agreement has been received from the Endowment Fund Committee to fund web site design for \$7K in FY14/15.

Community Support & Communications – Cathie Wiese – Preparations are in-process for the April 27 activities gathering in the courtyard.

Power provider choice – Joe Como -- A handout described the power choice situation. The choice is between PG&E and Sonoma Clean Power (SCP). SCP is a not-for-profit agency, independently run by Sonoma County and the participating cities: Cotati, Santa Rosa, Sebastopol, Sonoma and Windsor. If no action is taken by UUCSR, SCP becomes the UUCSR electricity provider on or about 15 May 2014. In 2014, rates are approximately 4 to 5% less than that of PG&E. Greenhouse gas emissions are claimed to be 30% less than that of PG&E. An option exists to elect the SCP Ever-Green Program which is claimed to be 100% local and renewable but costs would be an estimated 20% greater than that of PG&E. A 1 February 2014 letter/handout from SCP describing the plans and t&c's accompanied Joe's summary. Joe recommended changing to the default position, changing to SCP. In researching the options, it came to light that a different rate schedule would further decrease energy costs. Cathie motioned and Lois seconded the choice to accept the default change to SCP. The motion was modified to include direction to change UUCSR to the more advantageous rate schedule. Motion passed unanimously, 10-0.

Funding for delegates to general, district & regional assemblies – Laura Jean – There is budgeted funding to defray delegate costs but there exists no guidelines for distribution; i.e. a standard allotment or based upon request. Cathie moved and Alan seconded a motion to distribute the funding based upon 'requests'. The discussion included questions as to how to distribute, e.g. divide equally between requestors, first come – first served basis or other but these specifics were not resolved. Motion passed unanimously, 10-0.

Human Resources (HR) Committee – Linda Stabler Policy: Congregation members as employees – A handout considered the advantages, disadvantages, potential special difficulties and the vetting process. The potential employee would be required to accept the considerations of the handout. The BOT tabled the issue with the advice that the document becomes a succinct statement of policy.

Proposal to include report from District Assembly in the congregational meetings – Jeanie Bates -- An informal

solicitation of opinions indicated member support to include a report from District Assembly in the congregational meetings. Jeanie will investigate.

Nomination to the Committee on Shared Ministry

(COSM) – Jeanie Bates—Alan Bell was suggested by the COSM chair, Cathy Reed, in absentia, as a nominee to the COSM. Lois motioned and Laura Jean seconded to nominate Alan Bell to COSM. Motion passed unanimously, 10-0.

Retroactive approval of bonuses for music staff – Linda Stabler –Request was made to approve the music staff bonuses which have already been paid. Joe motioned and Susan seconded to retroactively approve the music staff bonuses. Motion passed unanimously, 10-0.

Treasurer's Report – Linda Balabanian, Treasurer – The year-to-date July - March (9 months) financial report:

Revenue -- Pledge revenue in March was about \$2K over budget and year to date pledge revenue continues to be over budget. Sunday basket revenue for the month was under budget again, a particularly bad sign considering that March had 5 Sundays. Year-to-date Sunday basket is 16% under budget.

Expenses – Repairs & Maintenance expense is the only account that is significantly over budget – approximately \$2.8K, \$300 less than last month. It is expected that R&M expenses will end the year over budget because of the significant number of repairs that were necessary this year. Total expenses are about \$1.4K over budget.

Net Income – Net income is \$7K, before taking into account "other income" areas in this year's budget such as intern stipend grant, surplus and endowment distribution.

Cash -- Cash remains very strong and fairly consistent month to month.

Pledge Drive Update -- There are very few pledge cards outstanding. Estimated pledge drive total is \$417K, \$18K short of the goal.

BOT budget meeting – A 24 April 2014 meeting is scheduled to specifically address establishing the FY14/15 draft budget.

FY14/15 Budget – Kirsten Olney – A handout tabulated the budget by program; comparing FY14/15 budget versus FY13/14 budget. The comparison indicated a \$20K increase in expenses and a \$5K decrease in revenue for FY14/15; resulting in a \$25K shortfall. Laura Jean requested "what if" scenarios looking at increments of pay and benefit increases. A balanced budget will be formulated at the April 24 meeting.

Executive Session – No report
Respectfully submitted -- Terry Graham

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June 2014

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Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Santa Rosa

Mailing Address: 547 Mendocino Avenue, Santa Rosa, CA 95401 Telephone: 707-568-5381

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Board of Trustees

President: Jeanie Bates,
President@uusantarosa.org

Vice President: Laura Jean Hageman
Vice President@uusantarosa.org

Treasurers: Linda Balabanian
Treasurer@uusantarosa.org

Secretary: Sibyl Day

Board Members:

Susan Bartholome

Lois Bell

Joe Como

John Farison

Alan Proulx

Linda Stabler

Cathie Wiese

Marge Wright

Recording Secretary

Terry Graham

Order of Service Announcements:

Send submissions to Announcements@uusantarosa.org

Editor: Janis Brewster

Deadline: Wednesday, Noon, prior to Sunday Service

UU Update Newsletter:

Send submissions to Newsletter@uusantarosa.org

Newsletter by E-mail is available. To sign up, send an e-mail to Administrator@uusantarosa.org with your name and e-mail address

Editor: Janis Brewster

Newsletter deadline follows the 3rd Sunday. All electronic deadlines are noon Monday.

Please place any hard copy submissions in the Newsletter mail slot in the office by noon Sunday.

Staff

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Intern Minister Bryan Plude, Ext.113, Internminister@uusantarosa.org

Director, Religious Education: Deborah Mason, Ext. 131 DLRE@uusantarosa.org

Administrator: Janis Brewster, Ext. 106, Administrator@uusantarosa.org

Choir Director: Sadie Sonntag, Choirdirector@uusantarosa.org Pianist: Richard Riccardi

Glaser Center Director: David Templeton, Ext.103, glasermanager@uusantarosa.org

Sexton: Peter Wilson, Sexton@uusantarosa.org

Sunday Religious

Education Staff

Shawna Hoxsie

Fiona Mackenzie

SHELTERING QUESTIONNAIRE

As our congregation strives to live by the 7 principles, most of us are concerned about our homeless neighbors. Our long established Saturday breakfast is a great way to meet one of their needs. Shelter is another huge need. The Sheltering committee has been gathering for several months exploring ways to offer shelter that preserves the safety, sanctity and aesthetics of our building and honors the safety and comfort of our congregation. We are interested in knowing what direction the congregation wants to take to provide services and maybe shelter to our homeless neighbors. We created this survey to ask about your wishes and concerns.

Please complete this quick questionnaire. There are 3 ways you can return it to us: 1)scan and email it to <homeless.services@uusantarosa.org>; 2)mail it to the UU office, c/o Homeless Services Action Group or 3)put it in the basket labeled Homeless Survey on the big table in the work room.

For statements 1, 2 and 3 please circle how strongly you agree or disagree with the statement.

1. I would like our congregation to provide shelter for our homeless neighbors.

Strongly agree/ Agree/ Somewhat agree/ No opinion/ Somewhat disagree/ Disagree / Strongly disagree

2. I would like to be involved in the planning or organizing of the shelter program.

Strongly agree/ Agree/ Somewhat agree/ No opinion/ Somewhat disagree/ Disagree / Strongly disagree

3. I would like to volunteer in the operation of the shelter program.

Strongly agree/ Agree/ Somewhat agree/ No opinion/ Somewhat disagree/ Disagree / Strongly disagree

4. If you are in favor of providing shelter, which would you prefer?

- a) Year round
- b) Seasonal (winter)
- c) Emergency (when temperatures are near freezing). It is likely that the Red Cross will provide cots and bedding. It is also our plan to have another organization screen the people we shelter and to provide supervision by having a trained employee spend the night.
- d) Another possibility would be a warming center where people can come in out of the freezing cold weather, but not lie down and sleep

5. What are your concerns, if any, regarding providing shelter for our homeless neighbors? (If you need more space, please write on the back)

6. Do you have any suggestions about other ways we can serve our homeless neighbors? (If you need more space, please write on the back)

Would you be open to having someone call you to discuss your concerns and/or suggestions?

Yes No

If yes, please provide your name and telephone number. Thanks!

Name: _____ Phone number: _____

Events at the Glaser Center

Friday, May 30, 7:30 pm

Wretch Like Me **The Road to Edinburgh Tour**

Written & performed by David Templeton
Directed by Sheri Lee Miller

\$15 in advance/\$18 at the door



Sunday, June 1, 4pm

Santa Rosa **Children's** **Chorus** **Annual Spring** **Concert**

\$10 youth, \$15 General



Saturday, June 7, 7:30 pm

Maria Bija **& Christian** **Foley-Beining** **Mark Taylor** **& Joelle** **Gonclaves**

An evening of electrifying music from Brazil and Spain

\$15 in advance/\$18 at the door

Saturday, June 14, 8 p.m.

The CALLING **ALL CHOIR** **Spring finale concert**



Directed by the esteemed Mark Growden, The Calling All Choir is inclusive, service-based community singing organization, comprised of people who simply love to sing.

All seats \$10, general seating



Kicking off Glaser
Center
10-year anniversary
celebration
with
DINNER
AND
A SHOW!

Saturday, June 28, 6:30 p.m.

Broadway Magic **Kelly Brandeburg** **Sings songs of Broadway**

\$50 dinner + show

\$25 show only (8:00 p.m.) (dessert & coffee)

**Celebrate 10 years of the Glaser Center
with dinner and a bit of Broadway Magic**



Sonoma County actress-vocalist

Kelly Brandenburg

**sings songs from Broadway
with pianist Chris Alexander**

**Pre-Show dinner served
by Worth Our Weight**



Raised in Santa Rosa, trained in New York, Kelly recently appeared in Spreckels 'Catch Me If You Can' and 'Jekyll & Hyde: The Musical'

Saturday, June 28

Dinner 6:30 p.m. • Show 8:00 p.m.

Glaser Center
547 Mendocino Ave
Santa Rosa
586-5381

**Dinner
& Show**
Includes first beverage
& post-show dessert
\$50

**Show
Only**
Includes
post-show dessert
\$25

Tickets available at The Last Record Store, the Glaser Center and brownpapertickets.com

It's time to plan your summer vacation!

Save the dates for the

UUCSR SUMMER CAMP

August 15-17 at

Enchanted Hills



It's the one retreat of the year designed for *everyone* in the congregation – parents, kids, teens, adults, singles and grandparents. There'll be loads of fun, with campfire songs, swimming, workshops, relaxation and dazzling entertainment with the annual UU talent show. Clean, airy cabins, a large pool, awesome play structure and if you want to get away from it all, there are quiet paths and secluded corners.

We have some great workshops planned but we are still open to new ideas. If you have a SPECIAL TALENT or an idea for a great workshop, tell us! email uucamp@santarosa.org or call Carol Kraemer [REDACTED]



AUGUST 15-17, 2014
ENCHANTED HILLS



The cost will be about \$180 for an adult with 50% scholarships available. We have lots of new members this year and we are planning to make this **the BEST retreat ever!**